

Serial No. 08/087,132

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claim:

Claim 172. (amended) At line 4 thereof, please replace "production" with

-- expression--

Please add the following new Claims:

*H/*  
-- Claim 199. A DNA molecule according to Claim 166 wherein the cryptic promoter sequence in the encoding cDNA thereof is altered by a single point mutation.

Claim 200. A purified and isolated DNA molecule that includes a nucleotide sequence that encodes human CFTR protein, said encoding nucleotide sequence characterized by the presence therein of a cryptic RNA polymerase promoter sequence, wherein the presence of said DNA molecule in a host E. coli cell transfected therewith causes said cell to be inviable, but wherein said DNA molecule is stabilized such that the viability of said cell is improved and said DNA molecule can be stably propagated therein.

Claim 201. In a purified and isolated DNA molecule that includes a nucleotide sequence that encodes human CFTR protein, said encoding nucleotide sequence characterized by the presence therein of a cryptic RNA polymerase promoter sequence that facilitates expression in a host E. coli cell transfected with said molecule, of CFTR fragments that are toxic to, and cause inviability of, said host cell, the improvement of including therein a nucleotide sequence that stabilizes said molecule to said toxic expression, such that the viability of said host cell is improved and said DNA molecule can be stably propagated therein. --